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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/588,875 | 06/06/2000 | Shekhar Kirani | LS/0003.01 | 1069 |

7590 12/08/2009
JUDITH A. SZEPESEI
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

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| EXAMINER |
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ENGLAND, DAVID E

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2443

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| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
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12/08/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/588,875 | Applicant(s) KIRANI ET AL. | |
| | Examiner DAVID E. ENGLAND | Art Unit 2443 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 October 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 71-92 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 71-92 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/02/2009</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 71 – 92 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 01/13/2009 was filed after the mailing date of the Non Final Office Action on 10/08/2008. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 71 – 75, 77 – 82, 84 – 89, 91 and 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagatomo et al. (6334126), hereinafter Nagatomo, in view of Alam et al., (6336124 hereinafter Alam), and in further view of Tso et al. (6421733), hereinafter Tso.**

5. As per claim 71, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches a method of providing digital photographic images by a server, comprising:

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6. receiving a request to view a digital photographic image from a client, the request including at least one of a session identifier, a user identifier or a photo identifier, (e.g., col. 10, lines 24 – 64, terminal ID and search resulting in an image.); identifying a device type of the client, (e.g., col. 9, lines 4 – 7 & Figure 7A);
7. determining capabilities of the client based on the identified device type, (e.g., col. 9, lines 4 – 7 & Figure 7A);
8. selecting an image format appropriate to the capabilities of the client, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15);
9. determining whether a version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is stored by the server, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15);
10. if the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is not stored at the server, generating said version of the digital photographic image by decompressing the digital photographic image to generate a bitmap in a color scheme that was used to generate the digital photographic image, converting the bitmap of the digital photographic image to the selected image format, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15); and
11. transmitting the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format to the client, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15), but does not specifically teach these steps involving an available communication bandwidth for transmissions between the server and the client;

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12. a standard intermediate format, and mapping the standard intermediate format to a format native to a target device.

13. Alam teaches converting a sender format to a standard intermediate format, and mapping the standard intermediate format to a format native to a target device, (e.g., Abstract, col. 7, line 38 – col. 8, line 21 et seq.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Alam with Nagatomo because converting data to a standard format allows the system to send the information to most end uses with only having to further format the data to a non-standard format for unique end users which saves processing time.

14. Tso teaches the use of an available communication bandwidth for transmissions between the server and the client, (e.g., col. 7, lines 15 – 60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Tso with the combine teachings of Nagatomo and Alam since it may be advantageous for a system to restrict what is sent to a client if their device cannot communicate at a rate of other computers, i.e., wireless and wireline, therefore making for a faster transmission of data to devices such as PDAs and cellphones, Tso column 16, line 63 et. seq.

15. As per claim 72, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches at least one of the device type or the capabilities of the client are reported to the server by the client, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15).

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16. As per claim 73, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches comparing the device type of the client to a knowledge database to determine the capabilities of the client, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15).

17. As per claim 74, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches receiving user preferences, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15); and

18. selecting the image format based on the user preferences, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15).

19. As per claim 75, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches storing the capabilities of the client in an information record once the capabilities of the client are determined, wherein the information record facilitates determining capabilities of the client for future transactions, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16 & col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15).

20. As per claim 77, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo teaches determining the capabilities of the client includes determining an annotation format supported by the client, the method further comprising:

21. dynamically formatting annotations associated with the image to the annotation format that is supported by the client, (e.g., Figures 7A – 8 & col. 10, line 59 – col. 11, line 16, text + image, col. 14, line 46 – col. 15, line 15).

22. As per claim 92, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo does not specifically teach the mapping further includes at least one of performing image scaling, performing dithering and performing color dithering. Tso teaches the mapping further includes at least one of performing image scaling, performing dithering and performing color dithering, (e.g., col. 10, lines 37 – 49, col. 12, lines 53 et seq.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Tso with Nagatomo because scaling down an image to fit in a smaller storage device, whether main memory or display memory, allows those users to experience the data that would otherwise not be available to them because of their limited device.

23. The teachings to claims 78 – 82, 84 – 89, 91 and 92 can be found in the cited areas used to reject claims 71 – 77, for they are virtually identical in nature.

24. **Claims 76, 83 and 90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagatomo, Alam and Tso in further view of Wanderski et al. 6519617, hereinafter Wanderski.**

25. As per claim 76, as closely interpreted by the Examiner, Nagatomo does not specifically teach inferring a communication transport used for communications between the server and the client based on the device type, wherein inferring the communication transport includes inferring whether the communication transport is a wireless transport or a wireline transport.

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26. Tso teaches inferring a communication transport used for communications between the server and the client based on the device type, (e.g., col. 7, lines 15 – 60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Tso with Nagatomo for similar reasons stated above. Wanderski teaches wherein inferring the communication transport includes inferring whether the communication transport is a wireless transport or a wireline transport, (e.g., col. 10, lines 24 – 32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wanderski with the combine teachings of Nagatomo and Tso because determining a specific type of transmission medium would also aid in determining bandwidth limitations and if the transmission should be scaled down further because of costs.

27. The teachings to claims 83 and 90 can be found in the cited areas used to reject claim 76, for they are virtually identical in nature.

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 71 – 92 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID E. ENGLAND whose telephone number is (571)272-3912. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur, 7:30-5:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

David E. England
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2443

/David E. England/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443